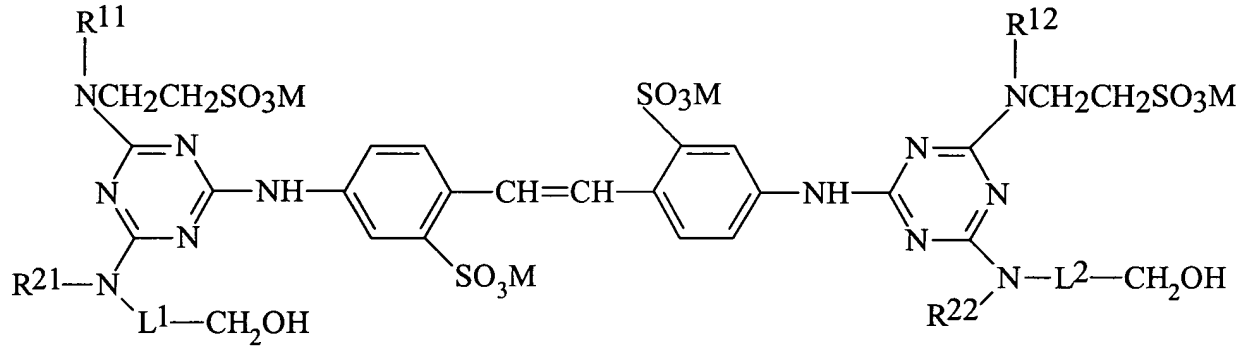
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) 4,4'-Bis(1,3,5-triazinylamino)stilbene-2,2'-disulfonic acid compound having the following formula:



in which

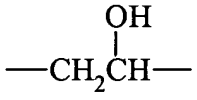
each of R^{11} and R^{12} independently is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, n-butyl, or 2-sulfoethyl;

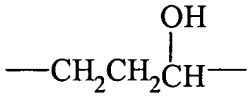
each of R^{21} and R^{22} independently is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, 2-hydroxyethyl, 2-hydroxypropyl, 3-hydroxypropyl, 2,3-dihydroxypropyl, 2-sulfoethyl, 2-(2-hydroxyethoxy)ethyl, 2-[2-(2-hydroxyethoxy)ethoxy]ethyl, phenyl, naphthyl, 4-hydroxyphenyl, 3,5-dicarboxyphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, and 3-isopropylphenyl;

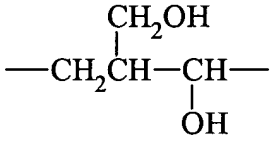
each of L^1 and L^2 is an alkylene group having 2 to 8 carbon atoms, which alkylene group has one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl and hydroxyalkyl having 1 to 3 carbon atoms; and

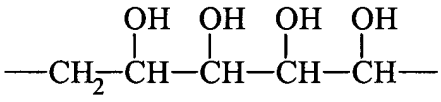
M is a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal atom, or pyridinium group.

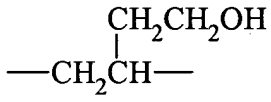
2. (Previously Presented) 4,4'-Bis(1,3,5-triazinylamino)stilbene-2,2'-disulfonic acid compound of claim 1, wherein at least one of L^1 and L^2 is a divalent group which is represented by one of the following formulas 1) to 5):

1) 

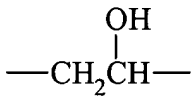
2) 

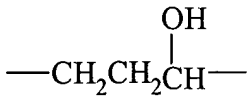
3) 

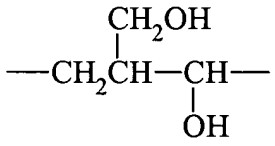
4) 

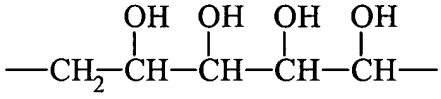
5) 

3. (Previously Presented) 4,4'-Bis(1,3,5-triazinylamino)stilbene-2,2'-disulfonic acid compound of claim 1, wherein at least one of L^1 and L^2 is a divalent group which is represented by one of the following formulas 1) to 4):

1) 

2) 

3) 

4) 

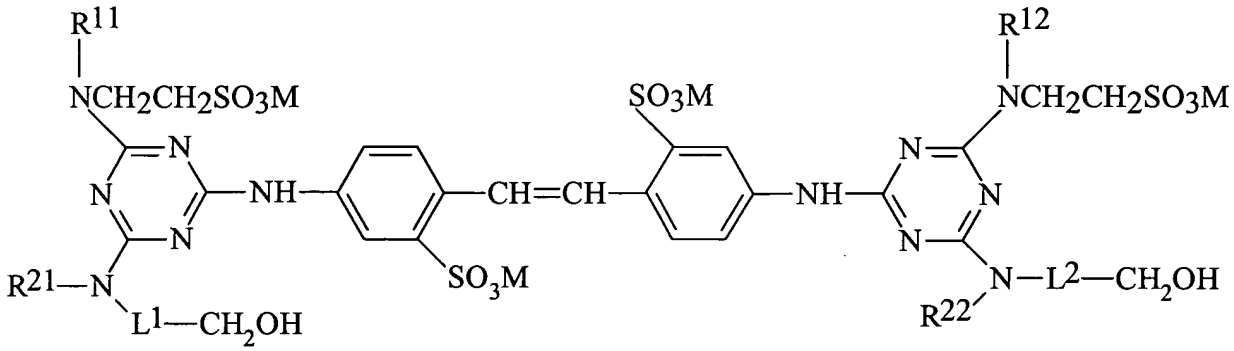
4. (Cancelled).

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Previously Presented) 4,4'-Bis(1,3,5-triazinylamino)stilbene-2,2'-disulfonic acid compound of claim 1, wherein each of R^{11} and R^{12} in the formula independently is a hydrogen or methyl.

7. (Previously Presented) 4,4'-Bis(1,3,5-triazinylamino)stilbene-2,2'-disulfonic acid compound of claim 1, wherein each of R^{21} and R^{22} in the formula independently is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, isopropyl, 2-hydroxyethyl, 2-hydroxypropyl, 3-hydroxypropyl, 2,3-dihydroxypropyl, 2-(2-hydroxyethoxy)ethyl, 2-[2-(2-hydroxyethoxy)ethoxy]ethyl, phenyl, or 4-hydroxyphenyl.

8. (Previously Presented) An aqueous solution in which a 4,4'-Bis(1,3,5-triazinylamino)stilbene-2,2'-disulfonic acid compound having following formula is dissolved in water:



in which

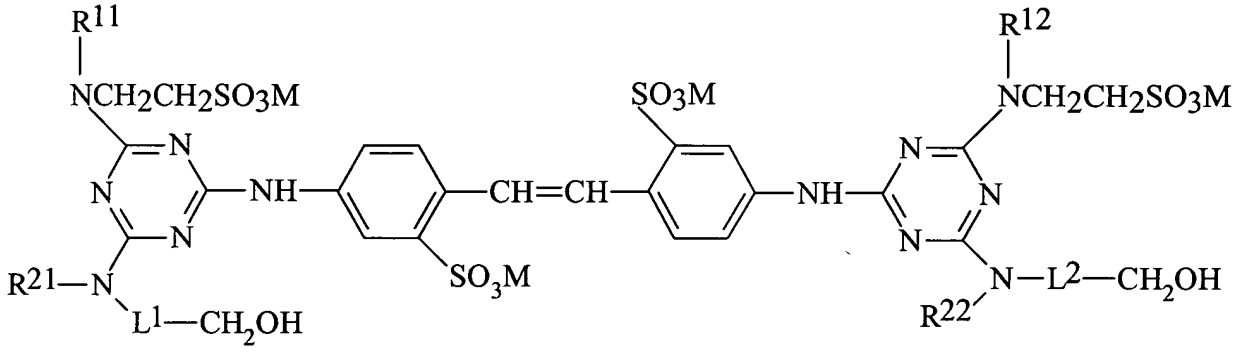
each of R^{11} and R^{12} independently hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, n-butyl, or 2-sulfoethyl;

each of R^{21} and R^{22} independently is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, 2-hydroxyethyl, 2-hydroxypropyl, 3-hydroxypropyl, 2,3-dihydroxypropyl, 2-sulfoethyl, 2-(2-hydroxyethoxy)ethyl, 2-[2-(2-hydroxyethoxy)ethoxy]ethyl, phenyl, naphthyl, 4-hydroxyphenyl, 3,5-dicarboxyphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, and 3-isopropylphenyl;

each of L^1 and L^2 is an alkylene group having 2 to 8 carbon atoms, which alkylene group has one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl and hydroxyalkyl having 1 to 3 carbon atoms; and

M is a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal atom, or pyridinium group.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of brightening a surface of material with fluorescence which comprises applying onto the surface an aqueous solution in which a 4,4'-Bis(1,3,5-triazinylamino)stilbene-2,2'-disulfonic acid compound having the following formula is dissolved in water:



in which

each of R^{11} and R^{12} independently is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, n-butyl, or 2-sulfoethyl;

each of R^{21} and R^{22} independently is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, 2-hydroxyethyl, 2-hydroxypropyl, 3-hydroxypropyl, 2,3-dihydroxypropyl, 2-sulfoethyl, 2-(2-hydroxyethoxy)ethyl, 2-[2-(2-hydroxyethoxy)ethoxy]ethyl, phenyl, naphthyl, 4-hydroxyphenyl, 3,5-dicarboxyphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, and 3-isopropylphenyl;

each of L^1 and L^2 is an alkylene group having 2 to 8 carbon atoms, which alkylene group has one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl and hydroxyalkyl having 1 to 3 carbon atoms; and

M is a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal atom, ~~an alkaline earth metal atom, ammonium group,~~ or pyridinium group.

10. (Cancelled).